

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



This time of year brings family and friends together to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. On behalf of all the officers and board members, we wish each and everyone of you a very blessed and happy Holiday Season.



Merry Christmas



Happy New Year



December Meeting

2:00 pm	Orchestra Rehearsal
3:00 pm	Business Meeting
3:15 pm	Individual and Group Performances
5:00 pm	Jam Session

The December meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 pm. As usual, the meeting will be held at the Messiah Lutheran Church, located on the southeast corner of Northwest Expressway and Portland in Oklahoma City.

Everyone is encouraged to come, and everyone

is encouraged to perform. If you are shy about playing alone, some of us will play with you.

After the individual and group performances, we will have a Jam Session.

All are welcome to join in on the fun!



The Prez Sez

Dick Albreski

I'm a happy camper. My term as president will end at the end of this year, but we have dedicated OAC folks who have agreed to step in and continue the growth of our Club. Usually there is some sadness when you leave a position, but not this time. I'm being rewarded in the knowledge that the Club will continue, and our mutual promise to keep the accordion alive and prospering will continue. Barbara Duer has agreed to be nominated for president. Tom Phillips has agreed to be nominated for vice-president, and Karen West has agreed to be nominated for historian. My sincere thanks to the above members for accepting the nominations. There will be a vote at the December meeting for the above, plus anyone else who feels they can also be of service in the respective offices. New officers will take charge in January.

I will continue to be on the Board next year as a past president, and my goals will be to assist the OAC Board in all their endeavors.

December is a big meeting. We will have our cookie and candy exchange, plus any other treats you might include. The Club will supply the drinks and tableware.

We also will have our hats, gloves, scarves, and socks drive for the homeless. Bring whatever items you might have that would keep the homeless warm. Last year, I was so proud of the OAC when we donated those items to the *Oscar Romero Ministries*. The director told us that our donations would surely help others.

Last but not least, we will have a raffle for the OAC Youth. Next March, the OAC will help send seven students under the age of 15 to Dallas to perform at the NAA. The money gained from the raffle will be to help those families with their travel expenses. Please bring in a gift that you can share in the raffle, and be prepared to participate in the raffle.

I have had a great two years as your president. I thank each member for your patience and allowing me the opportunity to be of service. I'm very optimistic about our future. Speaking of the future, have you renewed your 2014 memberships? We can't do it without you. See you in December.

• Dick



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7-07

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The Treasurer Sez

Milo Shedeck

Report from your treasurer:

Well, the year is almost up, and I am looking forward to another great year as treasurer of the Oklahoma Accordion Club. We have 59 members, and five have already paid their dues for 2014. Please get your checkbook out and renew your membership for only \$16 for primary membership, and \$8 for additional family members. Better yet, why not give yourself or your main squeeze a Christmas gift of a lifetime membership for only \$180. Thanks to Dick for helping collect the dues.

Our newest member is Wayne R. Turgeon from Edmond, OK. Thanks, Wayne, for joining the Club. We're happy to have you on-board.

Happy December birthday to: Norwood

Dunham on December 19, and Lucy Shedeck on December 13.

If I missed your birthday, please e-mail me or call me to add to the list.

We do need extra funds to support the youth next year when they play at the Dallas convention. So, bring a small gift that can be raffled at the next meeting. We had great participation last year with many varied items.

We still have a positive balance in the treasury, and all bills are paid.

See you at the Christmas party in December.

• Milo



Mark Your Calendars

December 31, 2013: the Bohemian Knights will perform live at the Czech Hall, 205 North Czech Hall

Road, Yukon, Oklahoma, from 8:00 pm to 12:30 am. Start your new year with a great, musical party.

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ACCORDION
MUSIC AND LESSONS
IN TULSA

Frank Gesinski
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November Meeting

Lois Roth

Minutes of OAC Meeting November 10, 2013

President Dick Albreski called the meeting to order. There were 14 members present.

- Nominations for new officers were announced. For president: Barbara Duer, nominated by Magdalena Brantley. For librarian: Karen West. Nominations for vice president were tabled.
- Members are asked to bring cookies or other treats to the December meeting for everybody to enjoy. Also, please bring winter wear items (hats, scarves, socks, gloves, etc.) to donate to a charity.
- Seven OAC students plan to attend the National Accordion Association Convention in Dallas in March 2014. The Club will assist them financially. A raffle will be held at the December meeting to raise funds. Club members are asked to bring gifts for the raffle. Bring items that are music-oriented, if you have any. Last year's Christmas raffle was one of the party's highlights.
- Treasurer Milo Shedeck will collect annual dues at the December meeting.
- The music program began with Tom Phillips playing "Sleep Holy Child."
- Barbara Duer performed Gordon Kohl's arrangement of "Mirjambrunnen," followed by her own arrangement of "Hungarian Dance Number 4."

- Dan Orza told about his band experience in music college. He said each student was handed various band instruments (trombone, oboe, etc.) and was expected to learn to play each instrument well enough to give a performance. He later realized that knowing how to play many instruments is very useful to a bandleader.
- Dick played his professional 72 bass Giulietti accordion for us. He demonstrated the sounds of its various reeds with "White Christmas," "Tico Tico," "Fascination," and "La Tipica," then switched to master for "Clarinet Polka."
- Frank Gesinski performed "Pigalle."
- The Accordionaires (Dan Orza, Karen West, and Lois Roth) played "Cossack Dancer." Then Janet Haskin and Annette Zongker joined them for two World War I Songs: "Smile Smile Smile" and "Over There."
- Dick concluded the music with a medley of patriotic songs, ending with "The Star Spangled Banner."

Our Christmas meeting will be on Sunday, December 8. We will meet in the middle room of the church, close to the office entrance. Please join us for a musical start to the Holidays!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth
for Secretary Maggie Abel



Why is music important?

Did you know?

- Condoleezza Rice, former secretary of state, trained to be a concert pianist.
- Alan Greenspan, former chairman of the Federal Reserve, was a professional clarinet and saxophone player.
- Mary Steenburgen, Oscar-winning actress, recently discovered that she had a musical ability for writing songs. She has written or co-written

over 40 songs, and is on staff as a composer by Universal Music. Her instrument of choice is the accordion.

- Woody Allen plays clarinet weekly with a jazz band.
- Music can lead you to academic achievement. Music can give you the power to focus on the present and the future simultaneously. Music can open up the pathways to creative thinking. Aren't you glad your parents made you practice?



November Meeting

Diana Richard



Giftg the Accordion

Rita Barnea

The holidays are here! So much shopping to do. But wait, the holidays are much more than frenzied buying sprees!

It is time to think about others who are less fortunate. You can be generous with whatever musical talents you possess. What about sharing your holiday songs by playing for a senior center, hospital, or family gathering?

As those of us who have played for people already know... everyone enjoys music and marvels at HOW DO YOU DO THAT? On the accordion? The buttons, the keys, the bellows.... adults and children are always fascinated with the accordion. Playing the accordion is both pleasing to the ear and captivating to the eye. It is never boring!

So, why not be brave and go out there and play whatever you know for someone who doesn't know the accordion!

But... since you are still going to go shopping



anyway... please consider supporting the many accordion artists, composers, and writers... who have created many wonderful musical gifts that you can consider giving as presents. They are inexpensive and you will be giving a gift that is entertaining, educational and, at the same time, supportive of our fellow musicians.

In this issue, you will get some great ideas for gifts. Don't forget that while you are making time for shopping, put aside some time for practicing and sharing your music.

As always, send your comments/ideas to me at Ritabell@aol.com

Make sure you read the 2014 January USA news for a comprehensive list and description of upcoming festivals, concerts, and more!

Happy Holidays to you and your family from everyone at **Accordions Worldwide!** (AWW)

• *Compliments of AccordionsUSA.com*

Q. What's the difference between an accordion and a macaw?

A. One is loud, obnoxious, and noisy. The other is a bird.

Q. Why did the chicken cross the road?

A. To get away from the accordion recital.

Q. What is the best thing to play on an accordion?

A. A flamethrower.

Q. Why do some people have an instant aversion to accordion players?

A. It saves time in the long run.

Q. When does an accordion player sound the best?

A. When the tune is over.

Q. What's the definition of a gentleman?

A. Someone who knows how to play the accordion and doesn't.

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Name _____ Date _____

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Phone (____) _____ Birthday (mm/dd) ____/____ (optional)

Newsletter

I prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, the Oklahoma Squeezins, by:

- E-mail at address (above) or at _____
 Conventional post (snail mail)

Membership Dues

The OAC membership year runs from January through December. Membership cost is prorated quarterly for new members.

- Primary Membership is \$16.00 per year per individual.
 Family Membership is \$8.00 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership.
 Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$180.
 Youth Membership is complimentary for accordion-playing youth through age 18.

Your Status (please check all that apply):

- Professional Semi-Professional Amateur Student
 Associate Hobby Teacher Repairman/Repairwoman
 Other (specify) _____

Make checks payable to: Oklahoma Accordion Club

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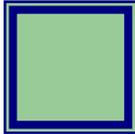
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